



▽ PLOMB ▽



"Let us have faith that right makes might and in that faith let us dare to do our duty as we understand it."

ANVIL CHORUS

"The Difficult Thing May Be Done Right Away. The Impossible Takes a Little Longer."

VOL. 9

OCTOBER 27, 1944

NO. 43

PLOMB GOES OVER \$4000 IN WAR CHEST DRIVE Heat Treat and Annealing Departments in the Lead

SOME "PERSONALS" FROM PERSONNEL

S. C. Miller—Personnel Director



In our recent questionnaire, there was a question which you probably remember. It was worded as follows: "When desirable vacancies arise, how do you think they are generally filled?" It was not surprising to me that a majority of the employees answering this question had no idea how job vacancies are filled, or had the feeling of one person who replied, "Sometimes, I wonder!"

The fact that you haven't known about promotions from within the organization is no criticism of you. Rather, it should be a criticism of us, since we evidently didn't do our job well when it came to informing you of the facts. We shall try to do better in the future.

Along this same subject, I was not surprised to note that a large number of men in the organization consider the Tool and Die Room as one of the desirable spots in which to work, — so let us take a few lines to review how some of the job vacancies in this desired spot were filled in the past and how they are still being filled.

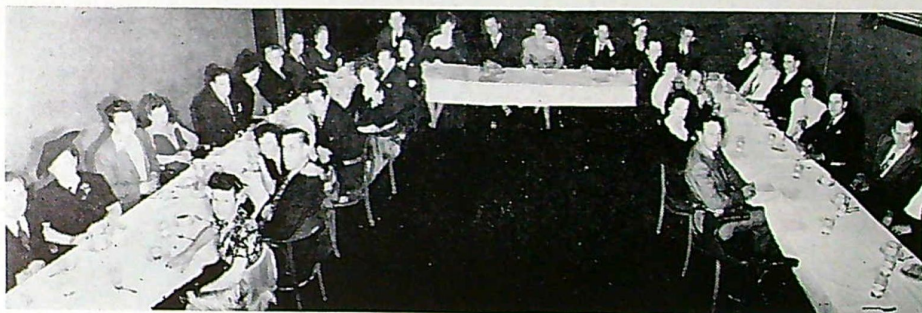
The following members of Tool and Die were selected on merit — which consisted of such factors as initiative, industry, ability, training, ambition; length of service, production, and dependability.

Three of the present department were trained under **BILL SCHOLLE** on the turret lathes and automatics. They are **JOHN MILLSAP**, junior tool-maker, **T. REINHART**, apprentice tool-maker, and **MACK SCHULL**, junior tool-maker, who is now in the service.

(Continued on page 3)

The Labor-Management Committee came through again with a swell job done to raise \$4020.04 in subscriptions as the Plomb Team's contribution to the War Chest. We were just short of \$4000 this morning when our good friend Dillon Stevens came along to boost us over the top.

The Committee was honored with a dinner at the Royal Palms Hotel Saturday evening preceding the dance. Mr. Pendleton congratulated them on their good work not only on the War Chest, but their accomplishments throughout the year towards keeping the "Team" at top pitch.



GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP IN FULL SWING — FIRST ROUND RESULTS

It was a sad sad day for defending champ **AL HAWLEY** and many others as the Plomb Golf Championship got under way October 15 at the Rio Hondo Golf Club. Suffering from a broken rib proved to be too much of a handicap for Horseplay Hawley who ran up against smooth stroking **KURT APEL**. Other matches went pretty much according to dope with **PAT RYAN** unmercifully trouncing **SLIM ARTER** and **WINK JOHNSON** outlasting **BOB STORTZ** to win on the nineteenth hole.

Complete results as follows:

Championship Flight: **MALMQUIST** def. **MARSHALL**, **O. F. TAYLOR** def. **WARING**, **STATZ** def. **CHRIST**, **HAYS** def. **McCAW**, **APEL** def. **HAWLEY**, **EXUM** def. **WILBUR**, **MAHER** def. **WILKINSON**, **McGUE** vs. **STURGES** postponed.

(Continued on page 2)

Mr. Al Laster, head of the local Metal Trades Council of the A. F. of L., informed the group present that the overhead of the War Chest was less than 3%, the remainder going fully to Charities. He expressed his sincere desire that we give every possible aid to these combined causes, and pointed out particularly the need for correction of child delinquency that has become a major community problem.

Dain Sturges reported on the results of our drive. Seventy-five percent of our people subscribed to the Chest Fund. The average subscription was \$7.50. Of the overall employees we averaged \$5.36 per person.

Quotas were established for each department based on 8 hours pay. The Heat Treat and Annealing Departments, under the Supervision of Fred Robbins, represented on the Committee by Fred Watts and Ken Judiesch made a record for which they deserve a lot of credit.

(Continued on page 3)



PEOPLE IN THE PLOMB PARADE

(Continued from page 1)

THUMBNAIL SKETCH

The Anvil Chorus

Published by and
for Employees of
PLOMB TOOL COMPANY
2209 Santa Fe Ave.
Los Angeles 11, Calif.

Editor — R. C. Walter
Photographer — Jack O'Brien

CONTRIBUTORS
All Plomb Toolers at home and
in the armed services

Permission to use any material in
this issue gladly granted if you
give credit to Anvil Chorus.

COMING EVENTS

BOWLING

Every Thursday night at **SOUTH-EAST** Bowling Alley, 7023 Pacific Blvd., Huntington Park.

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

Irma Nispel, Supervisor
Norma Hogan, Reporter

PATTY wishes to thank the Employees Welfare Association for the lovely flowers she received during her recent illness.

Saturday we had two visitors, both of the Marine Corps. **Pfc. RUTH PENZ-KOVER**, formerly of mailing department, stopped in for a quick hello. She came down from San Francisco to see her brother, stationed in the Army near here. The other was **Pvt. KEENE WHEELER**, son of **EVE WHEELER** (swingshift mailing dept.) He is visiting his mother while on furlough.

GERRIE RIGGINS had a birthday this week, and the girls helped her celebrate by giving her a card shower.

RALPH ADAMS, precision grinder, was transferred from the grinding line. Former polisher **MERVYN McCRAW** is now a tool grinder. **KURT APEL**, cutter grinder, was formerly on inspection. **TONY MATISKIE**, precision grinder, came to Tool and Die from the Machine Shop where he was a mill operator. **HERSCHEL CARTER**, tool-maker, and **CHAUNCEY MOORE**, junior tool-maker, were punch press operators. **HARRY KUTIL**, broach grinder, used to work in the assembly, and **PAUL WALKER**, tool grinder, was another member of the Machine Shop who was promoted from a broach operator.

Naturally, all of these men had to be trained into certain new skills on their present jobs, but as vacancies arose, these vacancies were filled by men who had proved themselves capable of accepting greater responsibilities. These men were ready when the time came.

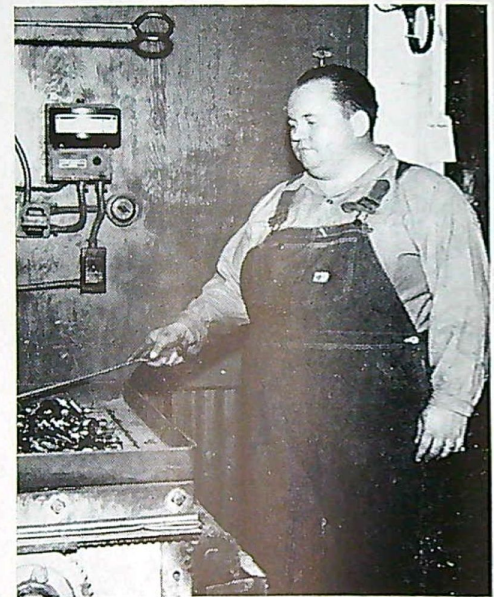
If you have felt in the past that you should have been the one to be chosen, rather than one of the boys mentioned above, go in and have a heart-to-heart talk with your supervisor. Ask him how you rate on the factors that are considered. Don't get sore if he tells you some of your shortcomings, but do something to correct them. Next time a desirable opening arises, you will be ready.

METALLURGICAL DEPARTMENT

Fred J. Robbins, Director

HARRY NARCHO and **JOHN TUNNEL** of the Heat Treat Department and **FLOYD STUMBO** of the Sandblast Department were victims of the "Flu" last week. We are glad that they are now back on their jobs and fully recovered.

"Practical Applications and Use of Hardenability" will be the subject of **Mr. E. F. FESS'** address at the Oct. 30, 1944, meeting of the American Society for Metals. Mr. Fess is a Consulting Metallurgist at Los Angeles, Calif. For further information call AN 21123.



FRED WATTS

FRED WATTS of the Heat Treat Department is truly a native Californian. He was born in Los Angeles, attended grammar school here, and graduated from the Franklin High School, Los Angeles, in 1927.

He was a salesman and iron worker until he entered the employ of Plomb in Jan. 1943. He is the father of four children, two girls and two boys.

His hobby is bowling. Before the war and its restrictions he liked to hunt and to fish.

Mr. Watts has the enviable record of never being late or absent during his employment with Plomb. He states that he enjoys his work here and the company of the men he works with.

CAR WANTED—Good Model A or not too expensive V-8 Ford coupe. Phone Mary Gillespie 29-1.

WAR CHEST DRIVE

(Continued from page 1)

They led all departments by subscribing 118% of their quota. Their department of 26 persons subscribed a total of \$9.84 per person.

Complete results by departments was as follows:

Heat Treat &		
Annealing	216	256.00 118%
North Office	550	523.00 95%
Grinding	147	133.30 91%
Forge	450	410.50 91%
South Office	290	257.00 88%
Machine - Women	425	368.50 86%
Contract	108	91.00 84%
Dip Room &		
Inspection	158	126.10 80%
Machine - Men	650	495.40 76%
Polish	220	161.00 73%
Miscellaneous	170	112.20 66%
Steel Crew	80	52.80 66%
Burring	84	54.00 64%
Stock & Inventory.....	515	294.00 57%
Cost Accounting &		
Product'n Control.....	365	185.24 51%
Tool & Die	290	149.00 51%
Maintenance	485	246.00 50%
Forge Die	200	72.00 36%
Engineering &		
Quality Control	132	33.00 25%

This is just further evidence that the Plomb Team always comes through, and another big feather in the cap of the Labor-Management Committee.



EILEEN HUSBAND CUTS A CAKE

The girls in Distribution Service staged a shower for EILEEN HUSBAND who is soon to become a bride. Next week we will publish a picture of the merry group who helped to dispose of the luscious cake shown above. We can't decide which is sweeter—the cake or EILEEN.

PRESIDENT'S Editorial



MORE POLITICS

by

M. B. P.

There is one proposition on the ballot that is strictly a California problem and on which we can all agree, irrespective of our views on other matters. This is Proposition No. 11, the so-called "\$60 at 60" pension plan on the November ballot. The principal features of the proposition and some of its dangers are outlined below:

(1) It would tax away an extra 3-5% of your total pay without any credits or exemptions. Tax returns would have to be filed **EACH** month.

(2) A tax of similar amount would be levied upon the gross receipts of Plomb, and every other industrial, agricultural and business concern in the State.

(3) The new tax would, in effect, become a turnover tax upon every transaction from producer to consumer. Thus, the price of all commodities, including every necessity of life, would be increased from a minimum of 3% to as much as 25% or more, depending upon the number of transactions.

(4) As soon as the prices asked by California producers went even a few cents above those of out-of-state competitors, California products would be undersold both in California and other markets.

(5) Because a high percentage of business and industrial firms do not make 3-5% of net profits per dollar of gross sales, it would be impossible for California industry to absorb the tax. Many lines of business would have to move away or go broke. California would become a state for business and industry to avoid. Jobs would rapidly disappear.

(6) The new tax is estimated at \$1.2 billion dollars, or more than 10 times the present retail sales tax which would be repealed. It would be used, except for a small fraction placed in the general fund of the state, to pay pensions of not less than \$60 a month to anybody, including millionaires, over 60 who promised not to work and to spend each month's pension within thirty days.

(7) If a 3% tax failed to raise enough to pay the minimum pension (as in times of depression) the tax would be raised to 5%. Extra amounts over and above the \$60, however, would be given away as a monthly bonus to pensioners. Under current conditions the pensions would exceed \$100 a month per person.

(8) The cost of the measure to every family in direct and hidden sales taxes would be between \$300 and \$500.

(9) California's present old-age assistance program, the most generous in the United States, would be scrapped, and if, as might happen; the new measure were held unconstitutional, our old folks now on relief would be stranded.

You are urged to enlist the aid of your families and friends in the effort to defeat Proposition No. 11.

(Continued from page 1)

First Flight: VAN KAMPEN def. BROCKMAN, CARLSON def. GRIMM. L. TAYLOR def. LAUNCHBAUGH, ROSENBERGER def. BYE, OVERIN def. FAIN, RYAN def. ARTER, BESS def. STAHL and JOHNSON def. STORTZ.

Medal play prize winners in each flight were:

Championship Flight

1st Larry Maher	91-20-71
2nd Kurt Apel	77- 4-73
3rd Wally Hays	100-26-74
4th O. F. Taylor	91-16-75

First Flight

1st L. Taylor	97-32-65
2nd Geo. Carlson	95-26-69
3rd Pat Ryan	103-32-71
4th Ed Bess	105-32-73

Women

1st Betty Jean Pigman	120-25-95
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Although Earl Grimm lost his match, and did not show in the prize money, he won a moral victory in the way of improvement. First time out last month Earl limped in with a 151. This time he had 150. That's the spirit, Earl.

The second round of the Match Play Championship will be played at the Southern California Golf and Country Club on November 12 beginning at 11:30 A.M. Handsome trophies await the ultimate winners.

News comes from BOB KERR (on a business trip east) of the birth of THOMAS AMBROSE WINNER, JR., at Jackson, Wyoming. LT. TOM WINNER for some time was night superintendent of our Stock Room. He is now overseas in the European theater of operations.



SEEK AND YE SHALL FIND

By DICK WALTER

These words of wisdom "Seek and ye shall find" are good advice for all of us. We **look** at our jobs every day but few of us **observe** them.

Railroad men still tell the story of old Frank Felman who was being retired after more than fifty years of faithful devotion to his job. At a district meeting, the Superintendent of the road presented Frank with a gold watch and was lavish in his praise of the old man's record. Leading up to the presentation he asked: "What was your job all these years, Frank?" Frank answered: "I was a wheel tapper. When the train comes in I tap each wheel with a hammer". To make this routine test for cracks clear to the audience, the superintendent said: "Why?" To which Frank answered: "I dunno. Nobody ever told me".

Frank was typical of the man who does a routine job every day, going through the motions, never asking himself, "Is this operation necessary? What does it accomplish? Is there an easier or quicker way to do it?"

Consider another case. A carloader on the Missouri-Pacific Railway, with no technical knowledge to speak of, figured out a way to pack spare parts for B-25 bombers being shipped by the Kansas City plant of North American Aviation Company. He re-

designed the crates, made them standard size so that they could be built with the help of simple jigs. Result: Three cars now carry as many spare parts as four formerly carried. Car loading and unloading time is cut in half. The tedious chore of shoring, bracing and blocking inside the cars is eliminated. Thousands of dollars are saved annually. Simple? Yes! But it took an alert mind to SEE the situation and to work out a new method of doing the job.



CAPTAIN H. D. TOLLEMACHE R.N. assistant Chief of Combined Operations says: "The Japs have no original ideas. Ideas will win this war. Industry and the armed forces will win the war together because we have learned how to work together".



YOU CAN HAVE \$500 TO \$1,000 FOR CHRISTMAS

Yes, it's quite possible. On the back of the Plomb Suggestion blank are these words: "Awards to employees for suggestions that result in TANGIBLE SAVINGS shall be UNLIMITED. An award of \$500 or even more, is possible, since the award is based upon the percentage of net savings the first year."

Consider, therefore, what would happen if YOU hit upon a \$500 idea. THE PLOMB TOOL COMPANY WILL IMMEDIATELY MATCH YOUR AWARD WITH A SIMILAR AMOUNT TO BE PLACED IN A SEPARATE FUND.

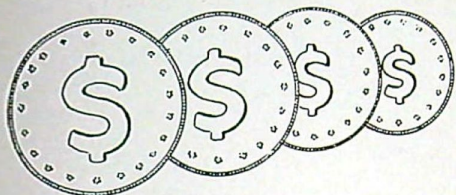
When the contest is over, there will be three prize winners. First prize will go to the person making the most valuable suggestion, second prize to the second most valuable, etc.

First prize will be 50 per cent of the total fund, second prize will be 35 per cent, and third prize will be 15 per cent.

DON'T LET ANYONE DISCOURAGE YOU FROM TURNING IN AN IDEA NO MATTER HOW TRIVIAL IT MAY SEEM TO OTHERS. REMEMBER — ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL WAS LAUGHED AT BECAUSE HE SAID HE COULD TALK OVER A WIRE. HE CALLED HIS GADGET A TELEPHONE.

Smart people thought he was crazy. IDEAS ARE NOT RESPECTORS OF PEOPLE. YOU may be the very one to win. WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO HAVE A NICE FAT CHECK FOR CHRISTMAS? Then get busy now — what seems like a dream today is surpassed TOMORROW by REALITY. Think it out — write it down — drop it in the suggestion box.

Do This . . .



and get This . . .



for Christmas

ANSWER THESE THREE SIMPLE QUESTIONS

1. WHERE . . .

Can my suggestion be used to best advantage? Make a rough sketch of your idea if possible showing its application. If you can't make a sketch get someone in our engineering department to help you. Above all

BE SPECIFIC

2. WHAT . . .

Will it do to improve operations, output or save time? Compare your method with the method now in use and show the tangible saving in time or material which will result. Make an estimate of the increase in production you think your idea will effect.

BE CONCISE

3. HOW . . .

Can it be installed and put into operation? By answering this question, you test the practical nature of your idea before submitting it. If you find that the cost of installation exceeds the possible saving your idea may not be practical. However, again, someone with engineering experience may figure out a simple way to put your idea into operation. So, we say

BE PRACTICAL

CONTEST ENDS DECEMBER 8th

"Waste not time for time is the stuff that life is made of."

—Benjamin Franklin



COUNTING TIME IS NOT SO IMPORTANT AS MAKING
TIME COUNT

PLOMB TOOLS KEEP INVASION CRAFT MOVING

WESTERN UNION

(WA403) GOVT NL PD WASHINGTON DC OCTOBER 18, 1944

TO THE MEN AND WOMEN OF PLOMB TOOL CO
BOX 3519 TERMINAL ANNEX LOS ANGELES

OUR SUCCESSFUL LANDINGS ON SAIPAN AND PELELIU WOULD HAVE BEEN IMPOSSIBLE WITHOUT THE LVT'S WHICH YOU HELP TO PRODUCE FOR THE NAVY. UNDER HEAVY JAPANESE FIRE, THE AMPHIBIAN TRACTORS BROUGHT TROOPS, REINFORCEMENTS AND SUPPLIES ASHORE DESPITE THE WORST CORAL REEF ENCOUNTERED IN THE PACIFIC. LOSSES THROUGH BATTLE DAMAGE AS WELL AS REQUIREMENTS FOR PLANNED OFFENSIVES MAKE IT IMPERATIVE TO STEP UP LVT PRODUCTION TO A MAXIMUM, EVERY MAN AND WOMAN CONTRIBUTING TO THIS PROGRAM IS URGED TO EXERT EVERY EFFORT TO PROVIDE THE VITAL CRAFT NEEDED TO SPEAR-HEAD OUR ALL OUT OFFENSIVES AGAINST JAPAN.

L. L. COCHRAN, REAR ADMIRAL USN
CHIEF OF THE BUREAU OF SHIPS.

Telegram Received from L. L. Cochran
Rear Admiral U.S.N.—Chief of Bureau of Ships

5 BILLIONS FOR INVASION CRAFT

Under Secretary of the Navy James V. Forrestal has announced that this year the Navy has spent one out of every four dollars of its budget — 5 billions! — for invasion craft that is putting our boys on the beach with minimum losses.

"The more landing craft we have available," says Mr. Forrestal, "the more power we can put in our punch, the more versatile our attack can be and the lower the casualties."

The boys need the protection that the LVT gives them. It is stark tragedy when they tell you that "there just weren't enough to go around." It's our job and yours to see that so far as it lies in our power there **are** enough to go around. Where coral reefs protect Jap-held islands, where jungle swamps must be crossed, where it is necessary to carry men and equipment not only up to the beach but on into positions ashore, the "Water Buffalo" delivers the goods.

"WATER BUFFALOS" ARE MANUFACTURED BY FOOD MACHINERY CORPORATION, RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA.

PHILLIPINE INVASION TRIBUTE TO PLOMB TOOLS



Last week the world was electrified with the news that MacArthur was invading the Philippine Islands. Supplies and troops were landed on Leyte beachheads by amphibious forces using Water Buffalos built by Food Machinery Company constructed with the help of Plomb Tools. Seabees immediately began consolidating the captured positions, laying out airstrips and plane-repair facilities and Plomb Tools by the thousands are at this very minute being used in maintaining the planes and amphibious tanks which are operating under fierce enemy fire, mainly from the Japanese 15th Division which conquered Bataan and organized the Bataan death march, that notorious march to concentration camps in which thousands of brave Yanks perished from thirst and hunger.

Thus Plomb Tools are helping to avenge these brave men who died when overwhelmed by superior forces of the enemy. We should be proud that we have had a part in what has been called the greatest amphibious operation the world has

(Continued on page 7)

PLOMB PICKINGS FROM THE PAST

ANVIL CHORUS 1934: "Where's Elmer?". We mean, of course, **ELMER TESKEY** who travels for Plomb Tools in Southern California outside the city limits of Los Angeles. Elmer's task is to figure out where the city limits of L. A. really end. The moment he sees a sign "Los Angeles City Limits" he pulls out his sample case and goes to work. Well, last fall, he discovered such a sign just outside Omaha (or maybe it was Topeka) and from force of habit he pulled out his sample case and started to work. **Then came the dawn.** With his family consisting of a lovely wife and baby boy, he is planning to move into a new home he recently purchased here" FWK.

EVERYONE in the stock room spent a safe and sane fourth of July except **WENDELL BELL**. Seems he forgot to let go of a giant firecracker. He's planning a safe Fourth next year.

PROF. JOHNNY ADAMS has been giving English lessons to almost everyone around the plant lately. Should anyone be interested in taking lessons I'm sure that the professor would be glad to act as tutor. He says, for example, that "it ain't right to say ain't".

ANNIVERSARY PINS

The following earned anniversary pins during the past week:

Office—

FRED PEARSON16 years
WILMA HINKHOUSE 4 years

Factory—

ANTHONY JACOBI23 years
FREDA GRESHAM 2 years
HARRY NARCHO 2 years

Chicago Plant—

C. BODOZIAN 4 years
G. EGLY 4 years
L. EGLY 4 years
A. FINNEY 4 years
W. GUTOWSKI 4 years
F. HELPERS 4 years
F. HORNBACK 4 years
J. ISENYA 4 years
B. KANDYBA 4 years
R. MORSER 4 years
V. MOSGAARD 4 years
D. RICCI 4 years
F. RICCI 4 years
O. RIIS 4 years
D. RIVA 4 years
E. SAUBERT 4 years
J. TUCKER 4 years
H. BRENNAN 3 years

HEAT TREAT DEPT.

Our new heat traitor is Jack O'Brien. He perspires till you think he's crying. But his eyes and his curls. They sure please the girls. He does it without even half trying..



PLOMB EMPLOYEES ENJOY EXTRA "DIVIDENDS"

THE PLOMB CAFETERIA: Operated by the Plomb Employees' Association with the practical backing of the Plomb Tool Company, our Cafeteria provides hot wholesome food for employees at almost cost. The 45c meal which we enjoy is one that would normally cost .75 to \$1.00 in a regular retail cafe. This is made possible by reason of the fact that our Cafeteria is a non-profit enterprise the prime purpose of which is SERVICE rather than financial gain. Under the management of Mary Jo and her hard working crew it is a distinct and unique asset to our organization.

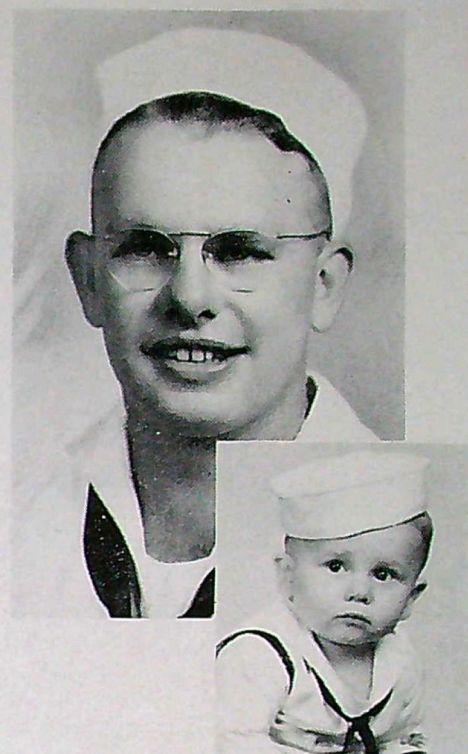
SILVER KITCHEN: The Silver Kitchen is an independently operated concession for the convenience of Plomb Toolers who wish light lunches, cigarettes, candy and soft drinks. It is a life saver at morning and afternoon rest periods. Jimmy Kamboor and Betty his wife with the help of their family (and, of course, Helen) are on the job every minute.

THE PLOMB CLUB HOUSE: Another "dividend" which employees enjoy is the Club House located at the rear of the Plomb lot. A hardwood dance floor, overstuffed chairs and couches, a fireplace, a piano and radio are some of the conveniences found here. Refreshments which include beer, sandwiches and Coca Cola are provided at noon.

SOME OTHER ADVANTAGES WHICH MAKE PLOMB A GOOD PLACE TO WORK

These are only THREE of a score of Employee Dividends which are available to the Plomb organization. Some other advantages which we enjoy are Group Life and Sickness and Accident Insurance (at low cost), Hospital and Surgical Reimbursement Plan, Employees' Profit Sharing Plan, Employees' Retirement Insurance Plan, Employees' Welfare Fund, Suggestion Award System, First Aid and Medical Department, Workman's Compensation Insurance plus many social activities which are sponsored jointly by the Employees' Association and the Plomb Tool Company.

M. B. P. spent most of his free time last week end in that 18' motor boat of his at Newport Beach.



RICHARD SLINING and his son, "RICHARD JR."

DICK SLINING, many of you remember, was in the Automatics Department at the Chicago plant. He is the son of **HENRY SLINING**, Vice-President of the Company and in charge of the Chicago plant.

When the draft caught up with him, his training and understanding in radio and collateral activities landed him in the Navy. He is in the radio training school at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. He will be there until November 12.

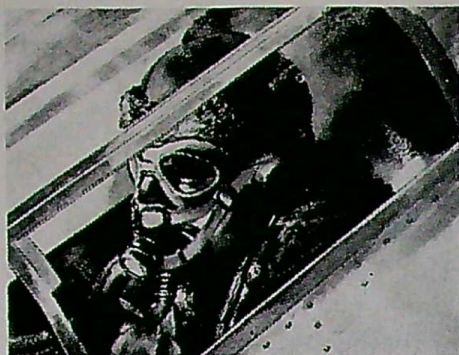
He is one of the fortunate young men who are receiving a university education, living in the dormitories close to home, and receiving a technical education that money can't buy.

His wife and son are staying at the Henry Slining residence in Parkridge, Illinois.

You've seen instances and read stories about fond grandpas spoiling the grandson. Well, in the case of young Dick, just double it, for the little fellow will go to his grandpap when he won't go to his mother. You know Henry Slining has a way with people, as those of you who knew him here at Plomb well recall.

(Continued from page 6)

ever seen. The armed forces of the United States are doing a mighty job and we are grateful to have the right to wear our Army-Navy "E" pins, symbol of the skill and undivided purpose backing these forces, and that this symbol flies over our plant telling the world about the part Plomb Tools are playing in the battle for freedom.



OFFICIAL AVIATION BRIEFS

SILENT DEATH

Anoxia is a silent killer — the most subtle of all the flier's enemies, according to the Air Technical Service Command. Anoxia means a lack of oxygen in the blood. The reason Army orders call for oxygen above 10,000 feet is that the oxygen deficiency at that altitude is generally unnoticeable. The flier will probably feel fine, but nevertheless he is likely to make errors of judgment and, as he goes higher, the brain will be more and more affected and danger begins. To continue under these conditions without oxygen is to invite death.

* * *

SKY HOOKS

"Sky Hooks" — a term once used facetiously to send cadets scurrying around flying fields on as hopeless a venture as snipe hunting — is now the name of a very practical AAF device, used to drop emergency supplies accurately from high altitudes without the great wind driftage accompanying parachute drops. Developed by the Air Technical Service Command personal equipment laboratory at Wright field, the plastic "pod" or body of the Sky Hook carries approximately 65 pounds of supplies. The wing or blade attached to the container causes the hook to spiral around its own center of gravity like a spinning maple seed which inspired its design.

* * *

"FLYING DUTCHMAN" TO THE RESCUE

Successfully tested in the Gulf of Mexico, a 27 foot air-sea rescue craft developed by the Air Technical Service Command equipment laboratory is now in mass production. The boat provides shelter, carries food and clothing and enough gasoline and sail to permit a 1500 mile voyage in the roughest weather. It is carried under the fuselage of heavy planes and is dropped to sea-stranded personnel. The airborne ocean-going craft is named appropriately the "Flying Dutchman."



LETTERS FROM PLOMB TOOLERS IN THE ARMED SERVICES

HAROLD PETERMAN, NOW OVERSEAS, WRITES TO M. B. P.

October 11, 1944
1165th Engrs.
Combat Group

Dear M. B. P.:

I received your letter about two weeks ago but am just finding time to answer same. We are busy at this time, trying to make things as comfortable for ourselves as possible. Many tough days of labor are yet ahead, but things are beginning to improve daily.

Have just received, in today's mail call, the September 22 issue of the "Anvil Chorus". Your editorial entitled V-2 was of particular interest to me, as I am in complete accord with your version of celebrating the war's end. I don't think any group of individuals could appreciate this move more than those who are struggling along out here in the Pacific theatre of operations. When I first went out of the States for duty I was of the opinion that it was a matter of only a few months. Since that time I have become associated with men, who know about how things are going. Now I feel like they do, and this is, the Golden Gate in '48. I think many of the loved ones at home are disillusioned in the news. I would think that the men who are very fortunate to hold down those good war time jobs, would consider themselves soldiers, fighting the same enemy that we are, out here in the field of operations. There should be a greater incentive as their pay is greater, and the employee and employer relations are superior.

I was truly happy to receive your kind and charitable advice. Anything you have to add will be received in all sincerity. I am thankful to know that, as far as you are concerned, I am able to look forward to a position in peace time. The government has offered several opportunities to grasp education, but we find too little time to devote to same, out here. I've thought of coming back to work and see where I can improve myself by attending Wiggins. I would very much like to again work for Glen Crist, and then get a better general idea of machine shop time and motion study, and production control, by attending evening school.

Well Boss, take it a little easier. You

ERMA WARNER SENDS US NEWS FROM NEW GUINEA OUTPOST

Dear Mr. Pendleton:

A follow-up from the last APO you received from me and from what a different place! To be sure, the scenery reminds me of California with a lovely beach just outside the barracks, palm trees all over the place. (Coconut, tho) and various other flora that looks like home. But very near us, almost within spitting distance, is the jungle we have all read about. This very beach was once the scene of terrible battles and loss of life. The Army has carved room for a fair sized city here, complete with electric lights and running water (usually).

I'm getting a peculiar color, atabrine yellow under a very deep tan, mixed with peeling sunburn here and there! We work very long hours, but get some time off during the day for surf bathing and to be in the shade — so Warner figures that if a little sun is good, more is better.

Weather here is very hot. Sticky during the day but nights are cool enough to require a blanket for comfort. Two clean shirts a day, and you still want a fresh one for that date in the evening.

"Anvil Chorus" has already followed me. Thanks a lot.

Please give my love to all the gang. Are any other ex-employees of Plomb here?

Sincerely,
ERMA (WARNER MELVIN).

Pfc. Erma W. Melvin A917216
Co. B - 5214 - WAC-SU, Hq. 4S
APO #503, c/o Postmaster
San Francisco, California.

fellows are doing a job greater than ours. I know, as I am in a position to see what the machinery and tools at the command of the Army Engineers alone, are capable of doing.

In closing I wish you the best of health and happiness. My kindest regards to all my fellow workers at Plomb. Keep up your fight and God bless you, everyone.

Sincerely,
HAROLD PETERMAN.

P.S. Tell Glen I received his letter the same time I heard from you, and will answer him soon. Until then this note will have to serve a two-fold purpose.

Pvt. H. T. Peterman, 37577132
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